

Martinez, Ruben

From: Next Door <nextdoorreagency@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 09, 2021 11:36 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse

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Dear City of Pasadena Councilmembers and Councilmember Masuda, my Councilmember

My family has resided in CD 4 for more than 44 years —with residential and business interests in the area. Our current residence is on Park Vista Drive.

Due to health restrictions, I was not able to be present in person for the City Council meetings in past years. However, I have been following the cannabis ordinance change through zoom and many published articles.

My wife and I are in favor of the City Manager's amendments and staff recommendation as well as the EdTech recommendation.

Many experts and professionals have spoken in favor of the change to allow up to six winning applicants to proceed. This is a fair solution and a good choice for Pasadena. It brings tax revenue, more jobs and supports the city's Initiative to shut down illegal locations.

Please vote yes and in favor of the ordinance change today.

Thank you,

Sahag Kasparian
Siroun Kasparian

08/09/2021
Item 12

Martinez, Ruben

From: pasadenacannabisequity
Sent: Monday, August 09, 2021 12:25 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: August 9, 2021 meeting Item 12
Attachments: Harvest-of-Pasadena-Redacted-App.pdf

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Attached are two pages from Harvest's cannabis application.

The application states that "If awarded a license to operate a retail store, we will continue this culture of philanthropy and support throughout the Pasadena community, including the donation of at least (amount redacted) annually to local charitable and non-profit organizations..."

Harvest was awarded a license to operate in February 2021. Harvest does not appear to have provided any of the funds they promised in their application. Even worse, for two years Harvest has been allowed to block other companies which would have provided community benefits.

Harvest (including its Pasadena license) is in the process of being sold for \$2.1 billion. It has offered its Pasadena license to buyers with a sales price of \$4 million.

Pasadena was deceived by Harvest, who has kept none of its promises to provide jobs or any other local benefits.

Therefore, in my opinion Harvest is in breach and their Pasadena cannabis license should be canceled.

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

**08/09/2021
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compassion, knowledge, and support to offer. We are so grateful and could not have successfully treated our son's seizures with cannabis over the past two years without all of them!"

-- LeDawn Youngclaus

"Harvesting Hope has been the most amazing support group for myself and my granddaughter. It has helped me understand the process of getting CBD, getting a medical marijuana card, showing me and helping us understand the dosing process, listening to my frustrations with doctors and medication, and giving us the financial support needed for my granddaughter, so she could attend Camp Candlelight during the summer. That was the highlight of her life! We have been with Harvesting Hope for over 2 1/2 years now, and we feel very fortunate to have them in our life."

-- Yolanda Daniels

Other Collaborative Work

Other organizations with which Harvest has collaborated include the Epilepsy Foundation of Nevada, Friends of Parkinson's, The Justa Center for Homeless Seniors, Paradise Senior Living Center, The Cancer Support Community of Phoenix, The Southwest Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America, and the United Food Bank. Two of the organizations with which Harvest has worked have provided letters of support for Harvest, attesting to their community impact efforts. Please see Figure 11 for these letters.

Collaboration with Pasadena Non-Profit and Community Organizations

If awarded a license to operate a retail store, we will continue this culture of philanthropy and support throughout the Pasadena community, including the donation of at least [REDACTED] annually to local charitable and non-profit organizations and by compensating each employee for up to five hours of volunteer work per month. To date, we have contacted the following organizations:

- AbilityFirst
- Angeles Chorale
- Aspires West Pasadena
- Boston Court Performing Arts Center
- Cancer Support Community – Pasadena
- CHOICISS
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Door of Hope
- Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Los Angeles
- Eye Heart Art
- Foothill Unity Center, Inc.
- Foundation for Living Beauty
- Hathaway-Sycamores Child & Family Services
- Help for Strokes

Unfortunately, as of the submission of this application, several Pasadena community organizations have refused to collaborate with our proposed store due to our association with cannabis. Harvest's outreach team, however, has years of experience persevering in similar scenarios, and we will leverage their experience to continue pursuing relationships with these organizations in an effort to provide support and educational services that benefit the community. Encouragingly, one organization, CHOICISS has provided support for our store and we have committed to donating at least [REDACTED] and providing time and resources to their organization should we be granted a permit to operate in Pasadena. See Figure 12 for letters documenting these commitments.

Finally, although Harvesting Hope is a small organization, our goal is to establish a branch in Pasadena to provide emotional, psychological, and financial support services for even more children and families suffering the ramifications of pediatric and childhood seizure disorders.

Collaboration with Pasadena Youth Educational Programs and Institutions

We want Pasadena citizens to know that the unlawful or irresponsible use of cannabis has severe consequences. Although recreational cannabis is legal in the State of California, there are penalties for recreational use under the age of 21 and medical use without a valid physician's recommendation. Moreover, the misuse or abuse of cannabis can lead to negative physical and social-emotional outcomes.

To bring awareness of the penalties for unlawful use of cannabis and potential physical and mental health consequences, we will participate in a City-led public outreach and educational program for youth and educational institutions that outlines the risks of youth use of and addiction to cannabis and identifies resources related to drugs and drug addiction, per **PMC 5.78.200(C)**. In doing so, we will seek to partner with youth-focused organizations in Pasadena including, but not limited to:

- Aspires West, Pasadena
- Boy Scouts of America, Greater Los Angeles Area Council
- Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena
- Day One
- Girl Scouts, Greater Los Angeles
- Journey House
- Pasadena Educational Foundation and area schools
- Stars (formerly Lake Avenue Community Foundation)
- YMCA, Pasadena-Sierra Madre
- YWCA, Pasadena-Foothill Valley

We will also partner with the Pasadena Police Department and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to hold community discussions on these topics. It is important that our community works together to denounce and discourage the unlawful use of cannabis in our community.

We hope to hold some of these community discussions at schools, facilitating youth access to this important information. We believe young citizens must be empowered with accurate information to make the right decisions.

We will also partner with existing Pasadena businesses to provide goods and services necessary for our retail operations. As of the submission of this application, we have contacted the following organizations:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscaping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ New Image Landscaping and Tree Service ◦ Pasadena Gardening and Tree Service ◦ Edgar's Gardening and Tree Service • Vehicle Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Hrant Auto Service ◦ Hilo Auto Repair ◦ Pasadena Automotive Repair | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office Supplies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ M3 Office, Inc. ◦ Arise Hospitality Solutions • HVAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Pasadena Quality AC Repair ◦ Bryant Heating and Air Conditioning ◦ Performance Heating and Air Conditioning • Computer and IT Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ ABS Computer Services ◦ AJCCTech |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Presently, we have received letters from ABS Computer Services and Edgar's Gardening and Tree Service expressing their interest in providing goods and services to our retail store (see Figure 13). We will continue to pursue relationships with other Pasadena organizations to ensure we engage Pasadena-based businesses as part of our retail operations. We will also collaborate with the Chambers listed above to identify and engage with minority-owned businesses in Pasadena that can provide necessary goods and services.

In addition to the community benefit-focused initiatives described above, we will also engage in rigorous, multi-faceted environmental sustainability efforts to further the goals of Pasadena's forward-thinking Climate Action Plan and all CEQA requirements as prescribed by **Cal. Code Reg. tit. 16, § 5010**

Martinez, Ruben

From: Sareen Kaspariar
Sent: Monday, August 09, 2021 2:40 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Cannabis ordinance

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Dear City Council,

Writing again in support of the cannabis ordinance change.

The Edtech Committee did their due diligence to review all necessary scenarios. As a resident of more than 25 years, I am pleased with the recommendation. This is a great opportunity for the City of Pasadena.

Please vote in favor of the ordinance change.

Anna G

08/09/2021
Item 12

Martinez, Ruben

From: Savannah George
Sent: Monday, August 09, 2021 4:02 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Agenda 12 zoning code cannabis

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Dear City Council

I will log in shortly to participate in the Council call. I look forward to the successful passage of the cannabis ordinance change as recommended by Edtech.

As a resident I am in full support of the three per district and decreased distance change to accommodate the winning applicants as well as a social equity program.

Sylva Manoukian

08/09/2021
Item 12

Martinez, Ruben

Subject: FW: public comment item 12 - Atrium Group LLC

From: Pat Hurst <_____
Subject: Fwd: POSTPONED - Atrium Group LLC
Date: August 9, 2021 at 2:54:19 PM PDT

Hi David,

I am sending along the email thread regarding from Atrium regarding their notification that the Union space was no longer an option for them. Please see below.

In addition, I have spent quite a bit of time working with Atrium's team to come up with location alternatives that are outside the 450' range that is being discussed tonight at council. We have not found anything that can accommodate their needs and fit within the guidelines being proposed.

After research and discussion, there would certainly be more opportunities available if there was no restriction. Even with no restriction, there is not a litany of options.

That said, we respectfully request that the distance be reduced to no more than 300 feet between cannabis retail stores.

Please let us know if you need further confirmation.

Pat S. Hurst
Principal
Hurst/Harriqan Associates
_____, Second Floor
Redondo Beach, CA 90277
Phone: _____
Fax: _____
Email: _____
License: 01032917

<image001.png>

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rami Hajar <_____
Subject: Fw: POSTPONED - Atrium Group LLC
Date: August 9, 2021 at 2:36:20 PM PDT
To: " _____ >

From: Jason Caramanis <_____
Sent: Monday, August 9, 2021 12:15 PM

To: Rami Hajar
Subject: Fw: POSTPONED - Atrium Group LLC

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Reyes, David <davidreyes@cityofpasadena.net>
To: Jason Caramanis; Mermell, Steve <smermell@cityofpasadena.net>; Fuentes, Theresa <tfuentes@cityofpasadena.net>; Paige, Jennifer <jpaige@cityofpasadena.net>; Nunez, Guille <gnunez@cityofpasadena.net>; Jordyn Jackson <jordynljackson@yahoo.com>; Art Caccatori <art.caccatori@gmail.com>; Rami Hajar <ramihajar@hotmail.com>; Rodriguez, Nicholas <nirodriguez@cityofpasadena.net>; Jim Townsend <jim@scocalbv.com>
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2021, 12:23:32 PM PDT
Subject: RE: POSTPONED - Atrium Group LLC

Good Afternoon Mr. Caramanis,
Thank you for reaching out and sharing this information.

You do not have to "petition" the City to allow you to move into D 6. You would just need to find a code compliant location and submit a CUP. We would then process it according to our rules.

We are happy to answer any further questions you might have.

David

David Reyes
Director | Planning and Community Development
City of Pasadena
626-744-4650

From: Jason Caramanis <jason.caramanis@cityofpasadena.net>
Sent: Friday, April 23, 2021 1:27 PM
To: Mermell, Steve <smermell@cityofpasadena.net>; Reyes, David <davidreyes@cityofpasadena.net>; Fuentes, Theresa <tfuentes@cityofpasadena.net>; Paige, Jennifer <jpaige@cityofpasadena.net>; Nunez, Guille <gnunez@cityofpasadena.net>; Jordyn Jackson <jordynljackson@yahoo.com>; Art Caccatori <art.caccatori@gmail.com>; Rami Hajar <ramihajar@hotmail.com>; Rodriguez, Nicholas <nirodriguez@cityofpasadena.net>; Jim Townsend <jim@scocalbv.com>
Subject: Re: POSTPONED - Atrium Group LLC

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Mr Nunez,

I was forwarded your emails by Mr. Berman.

I am the acting Manager of Atrium Group LLC.

I tried prior to Covid setting up an informal meeting to discuss options we have had moving forward, at this juncture we do not have the lease at the location in Pasadena and would like to petition the city to allow us to move into District 6. Thus alleviating some issues of to many applicants in District 3.

I have been having conversation with both Ben Kimbro as of the day before yesterday at Harvest and also Tim Dodd at Sweet Flower that I am working on a JOINT statement between all parties namely a statement by and between Sweet Flower and Atrium Group and a statement by and between Harvest and Atrium Group to come up with a friendly solution to enable all parties to be happy.

It's our resolution to help the city in this situation.

Sincerely,

Jason Caramanis